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General

## Syphilis Study Ends Sessions Held in Secret

Associated Press

The government-appointed citizen panel investigating a controversial 40-year federal syphilis experiment has reversed its previous decision to continue meeting in secret.

The Department of Health, Education and Welfare confirmed yesterday that the nine-member Tuskegee Syphilis Study Ad Hoc Advisory Panel will open its doors to the public for the first time on Feb. 23.

The meeting room at the National Institutes of Health will accommodate only about 20 outsiders, HEW said, and observers "may not participate in the proceedings," but as may submit written statements.

The panel intends to obtain information to determine whether the Public Health Service experiment in 1932 was justified and whether it should have been continued when penicillin treatment became feasible during World War II.

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